[Mr. S. Muthukaruppa Pillai.]

(*b*) will the Government consider the desirability of opening up regular classes in some central place in Travancore to train up a larger number of midwives and nurses with a view to open up a living to a larger number of women in the State and also the desirability of making them available to the village folk also at the rate of at least one for each pakuthi in the State ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Classes for training Midwives have been started from 1-2-1119 in four centres *viz.*,

Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum	...	15 pupils.
Victoria Hospital, Quilon	...	15 do.
District Hospital, Alleppey	...	5 do.
District Hospital, Kottayam	...	5 do.
Total	...	40 do.

A class for training nurses has also been started in the General Hospital. 33 students are now undergoing training. These classes will be continued for some time.

Paddy purchase.

9. **MR. S. MUTHUKARUPPA PILLAI**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware that according to the present system adopted by the Government of purchasing excess paddy from the ryots immediately after each harvest, the ryots as far as possible dispose of to Government undried and wet paddy with a view to prevent loss by shrinkage ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the Proverticars after purchase of such paddy, with a view to prevent loss to them by shrinkage and also for want of better convenience store them up in close and air tight rooms allowing them to deteriorate ;

(*c*) whether they are aware that for these reasons the major portion of the paddy collected by Government after each harvest does not reach finally the consumers in a wholesome condition ; and

(*d*) if they are aware, will they be pleased to consider the possibility of making better arrangements so that at least the local paddy purchased from the ryots may reach the consumers in a wholesome condition ?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Instructions issued in regard to purchase of paddy are that only clean and well-dried paddy should be purchased on behalf of Government from the ryots.

(*b*) The paddy so purchased is stored in granaries selected according to the convenience of each place. The paddy is taken out and reconditioned as and when necessary to keep it in wholesome condition.

(*c*) and (*d*) Do not arise.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly